and 11 are each independently substituted by proline; a peptide of SEQ ID NO:1 wherein residues 4, 8, 14 and 15 are each independently substituted by lysine; a peptide of SEQ ID NO:1 wherein residues 5, 6, 12, 13, 16 and 17 are each independently substituted by leucine.

12. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a modified cecropin A-magainin 2 peptide wherein at least one hydrophilic amino acid residue is substituted with a hydrophobic amino acid.

13. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein the modified cecropin A-magainin 2 peptide is selected from the group consisting of a peptide of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein residues 9, 10 and 11 are each independently substituted by proline; a peptide of SEQ ID NO:1 wherein residues 4, 8, 14 and 15 are each independently substituted by lysine; a peptide of SEQ ID NO:1wherein residues 5, 6, 12, 13, 16 and 17 are each independently substituted by leucine.

14. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 prepared in a form selected from the group consisting of tablets, coated tablets, capsules, pills, granules, suppositories, solutions, suspensions, emulsions, pastes, ointments, gels, creams, lotions, dusting powders and sprays.

15. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 comprising the modified cecropin A-magainin 2 peptide in a concentration ranging from about 0.1 to 99.5 by weight of the total mixture.

16. (New) A method of killing cells, comprising contacting said cells with the modified cecropin A-magainin 2 peptide of claim 10, wherein the cells to be killed are selected from the group consisting of tumor cells, fungal cells and bacterial cells.

17. (New) A method of treating a human or animal in need thereof, comprising administering the pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 to the human or animal.